

JAPAN CHRISTIAN ACTIVITY NEWS

LEVEL
ONE

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November 15, 1953

No. 28

NCC HOLDS RECEPTION FOR BRUNNER

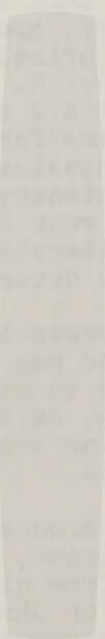
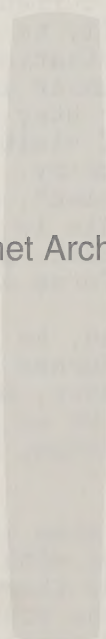
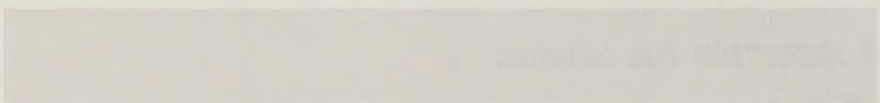
Dr. Emil Brunner, currently teaching at International Christian University, spoke briefly to an enthusiastic group of representatives of various Christian organizations and schools at a welcome tea given by the NCC on Nov. 9. Dr. Brunner in explaining his reasons for returning to Japan for a 2 or 3 year stay said he "lost half his heart to Japan" when he was here for a brief visit 4 years ago, and wants to do what he can to help evangelize the country. He felt, he said, "the call of God" to go to the "missionary front line", and feels that Japan is a "strategic point" in this front line. This is true, Dr. Brunner contends, because it has a 100% literate population, and because it has the industrial capacity to make it a determining force in the Far East.

At present, he said, he is still in the stage of "investigating the field" and has so far turned down most of the requests to speak which have come to him. However, once he gets the feel of the country and the situation, he hopes to be as far as possible a "wandering evangelist", cooperating with the Kyodan, the NCC and also working with the non-church Christians.

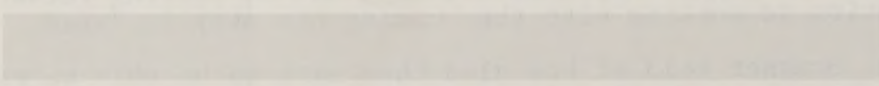
Dr. Brunner spoke also of the reluctance of the people of Zurich to see his leave, but added with appreciation that he has received many letters from his friends there encouraging him in this wonderful opportunity to work for Christ in the East. In closing, Dr. Brunner said that he already has many good Japanese friends, and is looking forward with great anticipation to working with them during his stay in Japan.

Mrs. Brunner told of how glad they were to be able to return to Japan and live here as a family, in contrast to their earlier brief visit. They already felt at home, she explained, and are delighted to be here.

In an interview following Dr. Brunner's talk, Dr. Yuasa, president of ICU, said that it is "germane to the nature and purpose of ICU to have such a world renowned scholar and Christian leader teaching at ICU". His coming is a "history making event" in Japanese academic as well as religious circles, Dr. Yuasa pointed out, but ICU wanted him not only because he is a scholar but because they felt he could do much to strengthen the church in Japan. Therefore, they will endeavor to see that Dr. Brunner is free as much as possible to utilize his time and energy in



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No. 28 - November 15, 1953

the cause of evangelization of Japan.

Dr. Brunner is lecturing on "The Outline of Christian Thought" for undergraduates on Wed. at 4 PM, and is giving an advanced course for theology and philosophy majors on "Existentialism" on Sat. at 9 AM. The lectures are open to academically accredited listeners outside of ICU as a part of their service program.

AUDIO VISUAL TECHNIQUES FOR CHRISTMAS DEMONSTRATED

AVACO will demonstrate the use of Audio Visual Aids for the Christmas season at a Workshop for pastors, Sunday School teachers, and Christian Kindergarten teachers to be held on Nov. 21-22-23. The Workshop will provide training in "How to Make and Prepare a Christmas Program for Children". Similar workshops were held from Nov. 9-14 in Kanazawa, Fukui and Nagoya by an NCC team. At these meetings, Mr. Sekiya, a noted radio speaker and children's story teller explained "The Bible and Story Telling Techniques", while Mrs. Kanashima, an outstanding children's artist, spoke on "How to Use Pictures in Church Schools and Kindergartens". Mr. Ogawa, AVACO chief in Japan, showed various films and filmstrips to demonstrate the use of Audio Visual Aids in the Church.

A children's Christmas meeting at Osaka Jo Gakuin on Dec. 12 will demonstrate the same type of program to teachers and pastors in the Kansai.

The Japan Bible Society will cooperate with AVACO in holding a Series of free Christmas movies at the Yamate Church in Shibuya on Dec. 4-5-6. English and American films with Japanese narration will be featured and Japanese filmstrips, puppet shows, and picture stories will also be presented. The meetings will be open to anyone and the attractive program should interest many non-Christians and provide a spearhead for evangelization during the holy season.

PLAN FOR AUDIO VISUAL AIDS BUILDING APPROVED

Plans for the new Audio Visual Aids building to be constructed by the AVACO division of the NCC on the campus of Aoyama Gakuin have been approved by all the groups which will cooperate in the construction. The 2 story building will have 3 studios, separate recording rooms, and other Audio Visual activity rooms. It will be a center for both TV and Radio for the Christian Universities and Churches. The Radio Audio Visual Education and Mass Communication Commission of the DFM of the NCCC-USA will sponsor a campaign in the U.S. to raise \$75,000 toward the construction of the studio, and \$10,000 will be raised in Japan. AVACO hopes to have enough money in hand to begin construction by March 1954 so that the building would be ready for use in the fall. AVACO has prepared a film in both Japanese and English entitled "AVACO and Activities" which will be used in the fund raising campaigns here and abroad.

IBC HOLDS SCHOLARSHIP STUDENT EXAMS

Applicants for 1954 IBC scholarships to study in the U.S. and Canada took their first examinations on Nov. 14. Those passing the first set will be tested again on Dec. 12. It is expected that about half of the 33 candidates will pass their exams and be eligible for the scholarships, which are provided by IBC member churches in North America.

No. 28 - November 15, 1953

At least six ministers will be among the scholarship students in 1954, according to Mr. Stone, IBC Field Secretary, while teachers in Christian schools, and Christian social workers will comprise the rest of the group. Candidates must be under 40 years of age, proficient in English, and have excellent recommendations from the Kyodan and institution with which they are associated.

WORLD STUDENT CHRISTIAN FEDERATION SPONSORS EXCHANGE OF EDUCATORS

Dr. Megumi Imada, president of Kwansai Gakuin University, left Japan on Nov. 9 for a 6 week trip to India, Ceylon and the Philippines under the sponsorship of the World Student Christian Federation in Geneva. The WSCF, of which the student YM and YW in Japan are members, is encouraging international exchange visits by prominent educators of different countries. Dr. Imada will speak to the schools and universities on his itinerary about "The Universities in Japan Today", "The Message of the Christian Professor in the University", and "The Student Christian Movement in Japan". He will also deliver some lectures on psychology.

As part of the same program, Mrs. Annamma Varki, Head of the Mathematics Dept. of the University of Travancore, and Dr. Hla Bu, Dean of the Faculty of Arts at the University of Rangoon visited universities all over Japan during October.

ICU LAYS CORNERSTONE FOR NEW CHAPEL

The cornerstone for the International Christian University chapel was laid at a ceremony on Nov. 6. University Records and a copy of the constitution were placed in a box under the cornerstone. The first step in the construction of the \$200,000 chapel will be the completion by next March of a 200 tsubo (2,400 sq. ft.) building with a seating capacity of 700. At a later date, a tower will be added, and finally, the original structure will be enlarged to seat 1200.

Among the 300 professors, students and guests present at the ceremony were President Yuasa, vice-President Troyer, and Treasurer Hackett. Kiyoshi Togasaki, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Michio Kozaki, moderator of the Kyodan, and Soichi Saito, General Secretary of the National YMCA also attended the service.

YM AND YW OBSERVE WORLD PRAYER WEEK

The YM and YW in Japan will join those of 80 other countries in observing World Prayer Week from Nov. 8-14. A total of 5 million members around the world will combine in prayer on the theme "This is the Life".

In Tokyo, the YW will hold daily services at noon and in the evening. Office girls will gather at a special evening meeting on Nov. 12 to hear Miss Gertrud Kuecklich speak on "The Deaconess Movement". An International Friendship Meeting on Nov. 13 will be an additional feature of the Prayer Week, with 400 people of different nationalities gathering together for dancing, recreation and tea. The YMCA will also hold prayer meetings every evening.

No. 28 - November 15, 1953

LARGE SCALE JAPANESE BIBLE MAPS NOW AVAILABLE

Beautiful contour maps of Palestine and the Mediterranean during Biblical Times will be published in November by the NCC Literature Dept. The maps which are for wall hanging measure 6 x 4 ft. each and cost 1,500 yen. They are available from the Kyobunkwan.

UN REFUGEE REPRESENTATIVE CALLS INFORMAL CONFERENCE

Mr. Aamir Ali, Far East representative of the UN High Commissioner for refugees called an informal conference of the representatives of the various agencies dealing with refugee problems in Japan. He emphasized the responsibilities of these agencies toward the refugees, and the ways in which they can help the refugees after arrival here. Mr. Ali suggested that Rev. Hallam Shorrock, WCC representative, act as secretary for the group to keep them informed of new developments in the situation and to form a liaison with the Japanese government. Mr. Shorrock will also act as a convener to call together local groups of representatives in Japan whenever concrete local refugee problems arrive.

DR. LEBER RETURNS TO THE USA

The Kyodan honored Dr. Charles T. Leber at a farewell sukiyaki dinner on Nov. 8. They presented him with a picture scroll in appreciation of his work as guest speaker at the recent Kyodan conference on the "Mission of the Church." Dr. Leber, executive secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the USA, left Japan on Nov. 9 to return to the U.S. after a 6 months tour spent studying the work of his church in Europe and Asia.

